Pension Application of James Athey R289
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[The following report is by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated fraudulent applications from the northern part of present West Virginia. Jonathan Wamsley mentioned in the report was one of the chief agents for the fraudulent pension applications. For details of the investigation see the appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth, S6111.]

James Athey —

this man called on me to Enquire after his Pension – on being interrogated – he stated that Benjamin Arnold had written his Declaration – that he had sworn to it before "Esquire Triplett" of Wood county at his house, nine miles from Parkersburg the county seat of Wood – that he himself resided about 8 miles from Parkersburg and was in the habit of going there every month of his life – as to his revolutionary services. I ascertained from his own admissions & statements, that he was an arrant imposter & never done one particle of service as a soldier in the war of the Revolution – his statement was taken in writing – which I think unnecessary to transcribe. – Athey further states that Spencer Sharp who is younger & stouter[?] than himself, made & swore to their Declarations at the same time – that Sharps Declaration was written by Arnold —

this Arnold is Brother in Law of Jonathan Wamsly and I have no dubt of his being a tool of Jonathan. W. G Singleton Dec'r. 13 1834

NOTE: No pension application by the above Spencer Sharp was found.